soap, there were any number of merchants selling it, whereas distribution of petrol in India was in the hands of a very few persons and unless full co-operation from them was assured, the Government had to take power to enforce the scheme under consideration.

But the point, after all to be considered was the persons whom this compulsion would affect. In any case, it would not affect the raiyats because they did not own motor cars. And even as regards car-owners, no compulsion would be brought to bear on them personally. They would be perfectly at liberty to go in future also to the same bunk as before. Only they would be going in for the mixture instead of for pure petrol. Even at present, the users had no manner of choice with regard to the stuff supplied. They had to buy whatever was supplied to them. They could not question or find out what the composition of the fuel was. The dealer would never disclose the information even if he had knowledge of it. Compulsion would apply only to those who sold the motor-fuel. In the absence of compulsion, it would not be possible to push through the sale of power alcohol. Compulsion was all the more necessary on account of the fact that Government could not organize blending stations or bunks of their own. The existing channels of trade had to be utilised and it was only for that purpose that an element of compulsion had been introduced.

Summing up, he stated that when once the Government took up an industrial venture, they had to take adequate steps to ensure its success. Secondly, from the swadeshi point of view, he asked why the State should depend upon foreign supplies when an article could well be manufactured locally. He hoped that keeping these points in view, the entire House would agree to this bill.

The general principles of the bill were thereupon put and declared lost, 77 voting for and 133 against.

At 3-15 p.m. the Assembly rose for lunch and met again at 3-45 p.m.

Mr. K. T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR suggested that as the next bill on the Agenda to be taken up for discussion, *viz.*, the Agricultural Markets Establishment Bill, was a somewhat important one and as the House would like to discuss it at some length, the discussion on it as well as on the other remaining bills might be postponed to the next day and that Representations be taken up as stated in the Agenda.

The PRESIDENT agreed to this suggestion and Representations were taken up.

REPRESENTATIONS.

No 1.—Introduction of the Debt Conciliation Act in the entire area of the Kadur District.

Mr. MEER MAHOMED SAB (Minorities).

Mr. MEER MAHOMED SAB said that in the past the coffee planters in the State were in a flourishing condition. But owing to depression in coffee trade and the low yield of coffee for some time past, they were passing through hard days. In addition to this, owing to heavy indebtedness and their inability to repay, they had been losing their ancestral estates. Thus, in the Kadur District alone, nearly 90 per cent of the plantations had changed hands and were now in the possession of outside money-lenders, so that the heirs of the former owners had no property to look up to as their own. If the same state of affairs was allowed to continue for some time longer, it was certain that even the remaining plantations would come to be owned by outside sowcars and the local planters would be utterly ruined. He prayed that with a view to save them from such a position, the Government should extend to the entire Kadur District the Debt Conciliation Act which had been introduced in only some of the malnad taluks at present.

Messrs. B. P. BASAPPA SETTY and **T. V. NARASINGAPPA** invited the attention of the Government to the promise held out by them on the last occasion that the scheme would be extended to the entire district and requested that this be done very early as the position of the planters at present was very precarious.

Mr. G. MALLANNA said that this Act might be extended to all the taluks wherein land mortgage banks had been established.

The FIRST MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina S. P. Rajagopalachari) said that the scheme had been introduced in six taluks as an experimental measure. The working of the scheme in these taluks would be watched and if the results were found to be satisfactory, Government would extend it to the other taluks also.

Mr. SYED KHAJA PEERAN SAHIB represented that the planters needed help immediately. He endorsed the statement that any further delay in introducing this scheme would result in even the few remaining plantations passing into the hands of outside money-lenders. Mysore coffee was a world famous commodity, but for some years now its quality had suffered and the crop rendered poor on account of the black-rot disease which the planters were unable to combat. Any further neglect would result in the industry dying altogether. All these difficulties had been brought to the notice of the Second Member of Council when he visited Chikmagalur recently in connection with the District Conference. Another point to be taken into consideration was that if war broke out in Europe, the price of coffee was sure to rise and the benefit thereof would go to outsiders if in the meantime the local planters were not enabled to recover their plantations. For these reasons, he earnestly supported the representation.

Mr. N. BHOGI MALLIAH also supported the representation.

Mr. S. P. RAJAGOPALACHARI said that the debt conciliation scheme was not such an easy one as some members seemed to think. There were many practical difficulties and for that reason it was not considered desirable to introduce it to all places all at once. So, as an experimental measure, the scheme had been introduced in six taluks and it was intended to extend it to other taluks as well if the experiment proved successful and Government were satisfied that the people concerned were taking full and proper advantage of the scheme.

No. 2 —Introduction of the Debt Redemption Scheme.

Messrs. K.T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR, B. M. MUNISWAMAPPA, H. S. SURYANARAYANA RAO, V. VENKATESAIYA (Special Interests); **T. THIMMARAYAPPA** and **Patel HONNASIDDAIYA** (Magadi Taluk); **T. MADIAH GOWDA** and **M. SIDDE GOWDA** (Channapatna Taluk); **B. CHOODE GOWDA** and **M. B. GURULINGIAH** (Closepet Taluk); **C. N. NARASINGA RAO** (Bangalore City Municipality); **K. NARAYANA SETTY** (Magadi Municipality); **S. KARIAPPA** and **Gurukar VENKATARAMANE GOWDA** (Kankanhalli Taluk); **A. M. VENKATASAMIAH** (Closepet Municipality); **N. APPANNA REDDY** (Bangalore Taluk); **A. HANUMANTHARAYAPPA** (Devanhalli Taluk); **Patel HANUME GOWDA** (Dodballapur Taluk); **B. MALLAPPA** and **A. M. CHANNAMARE GOWDA** (Nelamangala Taluk); **K. P. PARASIVIAH** (Kankanhalli Municipality); **S. SHARABHANNA** (Anekal Taluk); **Shampur PAPANNA** and **S. MUNIVENKATAPPA** (Minorities).

Mr. K. T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR represented that the bulk of the raiyats were too heavily indebted to be able to repay and they could not pay even interest. They used to inherit rich properties from their fore-fathers in the past, but heavy debt was their only inheritance at present. The outlook was indeed gloomy and unless the Government went to their rescue, there was no salvation for the raiyats. When the Debt Conciliation Act was introduced, the members of the House represented that side by side with it, the Debt Redemption Act also should be introduced with a view to achieve the laudable object which the Government had in view. It was unfortunate that Government did not respond to that request then. Even now, the member would request that Government might accede to that representation. The scheme they had in view was something like this: There would be boards to conciliate debts by bringing about compromises between the parties. If the parties agreed to the decisions of the boards, there would, of course be no trouble. But even if one of the parties, *viz.*, the creditors, did not agree, there would, under the proposed measure, be

some way of helping the debtors, while, as things stood at present, the debtors would have to go without any relief because the boards could not take any further action. If the creditor sued the debtor for recovery of his dues, it was stipulated that the debtor need not pay the expenses. That was all the relief that the debtors were at present entitled to get as a result of the intercession of the debt conciliation boards. Even this relief would be denied to them if, on coming to know that the Debt Conciliation Board was going to take up the case of the debtor, the creditor hastened to file a suit in a court of law. The only other Act under which the raiyats could get some relief was the Agriculturists Relief Act, though it was doubtful how far such relief was substantial. So, it was very necessary that the Debt Redemption Act should be introduced and a fund formed for redeeming debts, the amounts incurred being treated as loans advanced to the debtors. He was not unaware of the fact that it was too gigantic a task for the Government to introduce throughout the State. So he would request them to introduce it in one taluk to begin with, and go on extending it to others in course of time. The loans granted to the raiyats might be recovered in 30 or 40 annual instalments along with the land assessment. For this purpose, Government need not have only liquid cash. They might even issue State Loan bonds to the creditors. Or, if they chose to do so, they might even float a loan for this purpose at 2 or 3 per cent charging 4 per cent on the amounts advanced therefrom. This would afford great relief to the raiyats who were at present paying interest at very high rates, sometimes 20 per cent or even more. Government need have no fear that the moneys advanced would not be repaid by the raiyats. Just as they were paying the kandayam, they would repay these loans also regularly. Once they were relieved of the debts and enabled to stand on their own legs, not only would they not ask for remissions, but they would also repay the loan in instalments. However rich the private money-lenders, they could not undertake this huge task. This was a problem which could be tackled only by the Government.

Continuing, he said that after the advent of the Congress Government in the Madras Presidency, they had enacted a legislation in this matter. His object in referring to the Congress Government was not to disparage others. Any Government which had the interest of the raiyat at heart could enact such legislation. According to the law in Madras, a debtor who had paid twice as much as the principal by way of interest need not pay anything more towards the debt. By enacting such a law, they had saved a large number of raiyats. Some such action was urgently called for in Mysore also. If the Government had responded to the request of the people as soon as it was first made 10 or 12 years ago, they should have earned the reputation of being the pioneers so far as this particular legislation was concerned. But it was left to the Government of Madras to get the credit of being the first to introduce it. The Government here would do well to introduce the scheme at least now.

Proceeding, **Mr. K. T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR** said that as the raiyat was the backbone of the State, the latter's prosperity depended on the prosperity of the former. The Government had already recognised this principle and it was with a view to help the raiyat that the Agriculturists Relief Act was introduced. No doubt, it had given some relief to the raiyats, but it had its own ill effects, since the raiyats could not raise loans anywhere after that law was passed. The Debt Conciliation Act also was passed with a view to afford additional help to the raiyats, but as in other provinces, the raiyats were not getting the full benefit of the measure as its success essentially depended on the extent to which the creditors were willing to co-operate with the Government.

Mr. B. L. BYANNA enquired whether it was the intention of the mover to confine the scheme only to agriculturists.

Mr. K. T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR replied that for the present, the object

was to make it applicable only to agriculturists—those who came within the scope of the Agriculturists Relief Act—but nothing prevented the Government from extending it to others if necessary and possible later on. He had learnt that the Bhavanagar State had introduced a scheme similar to the one under reference, five or six years back, and that the raiyats there had been relieved to a great extent and were also repaying the instalments regularly. The Government of Madras had introduced the scheme and other Provincial Governments had taken action to do so. For these reasons, he requested the Government to do likewise in this State also, in one or two taluks to begin with and to extend it to the entire State gradually.

Lokasevaniratha Bale SIDDALINGA SETTY opposed the representation. He said that the Agriculturists Relief Act affected the raiyats adversely, because no money-lender was prepared to advance any more moneys to them. Thus there was little or no credit available to them now. Their fate would be worse still in future if a Debt Redemption Act also was passed on the lines of the Madras Act. On account of such laws, the very object of the Government, *viz.*, helping the raiyats, was being frustrated. If the Government were anxious to help the raiyats, they could do so in other ways, such as by giving loans to them and recovering the same in easy instalments. Government could give the benefit of such loans to the coffee planters also, with a view to helping them to tide over their present difficulties. But laws like the Debt Redemption Act would not help the debtors. If at all, they would unnecessarily ruin private money-lenders. And in their anxiety to help the raiyats, the Government should not do anything which would adversely affect private capitalists. If these were ruined, the raiyats also stood to suffer in future.

Mr. KHAJI SYED YUSUFF SAHIB, in supporting the representation, said that though the Debt Conciliation scheme was started some 4 or 5 years back in Madras, it had not achieved marked success because there was no Debt Redemption Act in force there. Also the Debt Conciliation scheme had necessarily to work on a voluntary basis and no creditor was willing to forgo any portion of his principal. So it was that the Government of Madras had introduced the Debt Redemption Act with a view to affording further help to the raiyats. Under that Act, the Debt Redemption Committees had been empowered to exercise in favour of the raiyat-debtors certain special powers which were formerly vested only in courts of law.

Referring to the statement made by Mr. Bale Siddalinga Setty that the little credit which the raiyats now commanded would altogether disappear as a result of the introduction of such laws, the speaker thought that there was no reason to fear so, but that even if there was, the result would be a blessing in disguise to the raiyats. The greater the credit available to any person, the greater were the chances of his making use of it. So he would not be sorry if such facilities were reduced, because the raiyats would be saved from further indebtedness.

Continuing, he suggested that the proposed law should contain a clause to the effect that a certain minimum holding of the raiyat—which minimum should be fixed as liberally as possible—should always remain free from attachment, alienation or sale. In his opinion, such a provision was absolutely necessary. The other provisions might be based on the Madras Act, and payments arranged through the concerned land mortgage banks. By the introduction of such an Act, he thought that both the raiyats as well as the sowcars would be helped.

Mr. L. VEMA REDDY said that he was sure that nobody in the House would oppose a beneficial measure like this. The prosperity of any agricultural country necessarily depended upon the prosperity of its raiyat, and so long as he was groaning under the heavy weight of indebtedness, there could be no salvation for him or for the State. So the Government would be doing a great help to the raiyats and to itself by introducing a Debt Redemption Act in the State.

Mr. M. SUBBAIYA felt sorry for the views expressed by Mr. Bale Siddalinga Setty. By the introduction of the Debt Redemption Act as prayed for in the representation, it was only the inconsiderate money-lenders that would be affected. Honest money-lenders would have nothing to fear from it. From his experience of managing a banking institution, he could say, without fear of contradiction, that the raiyats had not deceived their creditors. If any creditor had been duped at all, it was only by the debtors belonging to the upper classes. So far as the raiyats were concerned, he said they were paying as much as they could, but unfortunately owing to the very high rates of interest, whatever they paid was adjusted towards interest and there was little chance of their being able to pay anything towards the principal. Resort to the debt redemption scheme appeared to be the only way of helping the raiyats to be free from debt, and for this reason he supported the representation.

Mr. H. K. MADIAH said also that the Agriculturists Relief Act and the Debt Conciliation Act had not given all the relief required by raiyats in the State. If only the Debt Conciliation Act had been introduced in all the places at which land mortgage banks had been established, the raiyats could have derived full benefit, but that was not done. He therefore supported the representation and hoped that the scheme would be introduced at least now.

Replying on behalf of Government, **the FIRST MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina S. P. Rajagopalachari)** said that this was an important representation and Government were aware that it would receive the support of the entire House. The request contained in this representation was that a scheme of debt redemption should be formulated with a view to freeing the raiyats from debts. The Government had expected that the mover would explain the details of the scheme such as the agency for working it, the cost involved, etc., and they themselves wanted to decide what attitude to take after hearing the proposals. It was a pity that the mover did not place any concrete proposals before the House. However, the Government themselves had tried in their own way to solve this question in the past to the extent possible. In 1934, when the present Second Member of Council (Mr. N. Madhava Rau) was Revenue Commissioner, a committee was appointed to consider this and other allied questions, with the Revenue Commissioner as Chairman. On this Committee there were some non-officials also. That committee had discussed these questions and made a report to Government. They stated in the report that the total agricultural indebtedness in the State amounted to not less than 35 crores of rupees, that it was still on the increase, and that in a fairly large number of cases, the debt was very nearly equal to, if not more than, the value of the debtors' assets. These findings were, the speaker thought, sufficient to show to the House, what a stupendous task debt redemption would be even for the Government to take up. A suggestion was made in the course of the discussion that the Government need not have all the cash necessary for trying the scheme in all parts of the State all at once and that they might offer even State loan bonds to the creditors. In reply to that, he stated that the committee had considered this suggestion and found that it was out of the question in view of the hugeness of the amount involved. But on that account they did not altogether drop the question in despair. They suggested that the problem be tackled in other ways, *e.g.*—

1. by introducing the debt conciliation scheme,
2. by giving more relief to the raiyats,
3. by finding funds for paying the conciliated debts,
4. by opening land mortgage banks in all taluks, etc.

Government generally approved of those recommendations and in the first instance sanctioned the Debt Conciliation scheme. The suggestion now made was that the debt conciliation scheme by itself was not of much help and that the debt redemption scheme also should be introduced. In principle, he said the

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Government would accept the suggestion. But then the question arose as to how it should be done and what was to be the wherewithal for carrying out the scheme. On this point the Government had come to the conclusion that land mortgage banks and co-operative societies should undertake the responsibility for advancing moneys to the extent necessary and also of collecting the amounts. It was not thought advisable for the Government to directly undertake the redemption of the debts of all the agriculturists.

It was stated by the mover that the Government of Madras had introduced such a scheme and that the Mysore State also should follow suit. So far as he was aware, the Madras Government had no doubt provided a sum of Rs. 50 lakhs, but that was not done as part of the debt conciliation scheme. The allotment was made for purposes contemplated in the Debt Relief Act, *viz*, advancing loans to the extent practicable. He was not sure that even that law had been fully enforced there. So far as the Government of Mysore were concerned, he said, they were already providing funds to the Land Mortgage Banks for a similar purpose and if more money was wanted, they would try to place it at their disposal. But they could not directly undertake the task of redeeming the debts of the raiyats all at once, because of very many practical difficulties. Having said this, **Mr. RAJAGOPALACHARI** also said that the Government had not altogether ruled out that idea. The question would continue to engage their most anxious consideration as heretofore, and everything possible would be done by Government to alleviate the distress of the raiyats.

Mr. K. T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR thanked the Member for the assurance given by him that the question would always engage the earnest attention of Government. While he agreed with the Member of Council that land mortgage banks and debt conciliation schemes were of some benefit to indebted raiyats, he reminded the Member of one important fact that these institutions had no power to scale down debts and therefore the raiyats were not deriving the maximum benefit from them.

Mr. S. P. RAJAGOPALACHARI replied that the debt conciliation boards had every power to scale down debts. The very basis of the Act was debt conciliation.

Mr. K. T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR repeated that the boards did not have that power. He also thought that conciliation of debts was not feasible owing to the many restrictions imposed under the Act, such as that a certain number of creditors must agree and that the amount involved should not exceed a particular figure, etc. He requested the Government that a law on the lines of the Madras Debt Relief Act be introduced here with any modifications which might be necessary to suit local conditions.

Mr. S. P. RAJAGOPALACHARI observed that the Madras Act was not far different from the Agriculturists Relief Act which was already in force in Mysore. He also added that the Madras Act did not afford any cut and dried means of solving the problem in question.

Finally, **Mr. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR** said that he was prepared to fall in with any measures which might be taken by the Government for achieving the object in view, and only requested that whatever the action they proposed to take be taken without delay.

No. 3.—Establishment of Debt Conciliation Board and Land Mortgage Bank in Sira Taluk.

Messrs. K. P. CHANNABASAVIAH and **T. TARE GOWDA** (Sira Taluk), and **S. M. SHEIK MOHADIN** (Sira Municipality).

Mr. K. P. CHANNABASAVIAH represented that a Debt Conciliation Board as well as a Land Mortgage Bank be opened in the Sira Taluk. He added that immediate action in these directions be taken as suits were being instituted against the raiyats by their creditors.

The FIRST MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina S. P. Rajagopalachari) said that a Board had already been established in Madhugiri Taluk and its working was being watched and that it was the

idea of the Government to extend the scheme to the other taluks also as early as possible.

No. 4.—Disposal of the representations received from the public within a stipulated time.

Mr. Rayara KEMPANNA (Bowringpet Taluk).

Mr. Rayara KEMPANNA brought to notice that the revenue officers were paying almost their entire attention to the collection of land revenue to the detriment of all other work. Thus, petitions from the public were often not attended to and disposed of promptly and even in cases where papers were disposed of, the subordinate officials were in the habit of taking their own time to communicate orders to the parties. For these reasons he prayed that arrangements be made to see that acknowledgments were issued to parties immediately on receipt of their petition and that the petitions themselves were disposed of within a stipulated time.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA said that so far as the higher offices like the Secretariat and the Revenue Commissioner's Office were concerned, petitioners were experiencing no trouble whatsoever, because those offices were promptly acknowledging the receipt of the petitions. But the lower offices like the Sub-Division Offices and Taluk Offices were never in that habit. He had known of an instance where a copy application presented seven months ago had not been disposed of yet. If a party went to the taluk office to find out the whereabouts of his petition, he would be told that his petition had not at all been received in the office. He did not know why this should be so. The only explanation that was possible was that most petitions presented in these offices usually found their way into waste paper baskets, and a good deal of trouble and inconvenience was being caused to the petitioners. For these reasons he supported the representation, and also added that in addition to issuing endorsements acknowledging the receipt of petitions as soon as possible, a second communication should also be issued to parties in case the papers could not be brought to final disposal within a short time.

The REVENUE COMMISSIONER (Mr. K. V. Anantaraman) said that there was no difference of opinion as between members of the House and the Government on the question that petitions should be promptly acknowledged and expeditiously disposed of. According to the petition rules in force, endorsements should be given to the petitioners acknowledging the receipt of the petitions. But it looked from the representations made as though these rules were not always followed strictly. He would therefore issue instructions that the rules should be strictly followed. There was also a new suggestion made in the representation that petitions should be disposed of within a fixed time. Government would consider the suggestion and issue necessary orders in this behalf.

Mr. Y. V. MUNISWAMI IYER thanked the Government for their very sympathetic reply, and requested that the rules and orders in this respect should be strictly enforced in future and that officers responsible for delays should be severely punished, the punishments being also notified in the *Gazette*.

The PRESIDENT observed that Government would do everything possible to expedite the disposal of petitions.

Mr. KHAJI SYED YUSUFF SAHEB said that very efficient arrangements had been made in the Madras Presidency for the disposal of petitions. A time-limit would be fixed for the reply, when a paper was referred to a subordinate officer in the first instance. If the reply was not received within that time, a written reminder would be sent, and if even then no reply was received, a telegram would be sent. That system, he said, was responsible for quick disposals. Clerks in Munsiff's Courts were also called upon to maintain lists of papers pending for over a week, a fortnight, and a month, and to furnish explanations for all delays. In the Revenue Department, if the explanation in any case was not found to be satisfactory, the travelling allowance of the Revenue Inspector

concerned would not be disbursed or would be reduced. The same procedure was followed in regard to papers referred to clerks in taluk offices by Tahasildars. The personal diaries of the clerks were being examined frequently, and in all cases in which the clerks delayed putting up notes, their increments would be stopped. That system could well be adopted in the subordinate offices in this State with advantage to both the offices and the raiyats. Personally, he felt that neither clerks nor officers should keep papers for more than 3 days in any case.

No. 5.—Stopping of promotions to Revenue Officers who made more land revenue collections.

Mr. Ballam SRINIVASA RAO (Bowringpet Taluk).

Mr. Ballam SRINIVASA RAO said that in matters of promotion, the Government were at present showing preference to such of the Amildars as were making the highest percentage of revenue collections. On account of this bait, the Amildars were straining every nerve to collect even the last pie of the demand, if possible, so that they had absolutely no time to attend to the wants of even their own families. Not only that. In their enthusiasm to show a high percentage, they were not showing any concessions to the raiyats, however hard and deserving their case might be. It would be in the interests of both the raiyats as well as the welfare of the families of these officers, if the Government gave up the practice of giving promotions to Amildars mainly on the basis of the percentage of collections.

Mr. Y V. MUNISWAMI IYER said that this was a most unreasonable and unwarranted representation and should not be entertained.

The REVENUE COMMISSIONER (Mr. K. V. Anantaraman) said that the representation contained a misstatement of fact, *viz.*, that a high percentage of collection necessarily meant promotions to the concerned Amildars. There were instances in which increments had been stopped even in cases where the collection had been satisfactory. So promotions did not depend upon mere collections. On the other hand, promotions were given only to those who were considered efficient in all directions and not merely in respect of collections. As regards the work of land revenue collection itself, he added that it must be understood by the House that this constituted the main duty of the Amildars so that it would not be proper for anybody to suggest that Amildars should not discharge this duty to the best of their ability.

At this stage, Messrs. GURUBASAPPA and S. RANGARAMIAH represented that even though the rainfall had been scanty and the crops very poor in Chamarajanagar Taluk, last year, collection work was going on as briskly as ever, that the Amildar, the Deputy Amildar and the Revenue Inspector were camping there for three days, even as these discussions were going on in the Assembly, and that those officers were attaching cattle and movables, causing great hardship to the raiyats. They requested that some immediate relief should be given to the raiyats of that taluk as they were passing through very hard times.

The PRESIDENT said that the Deputy Commissioner would look into the matter and give any relief which might be necessary and possible.

No. 6.—Improving the condition of villages and people.

Mr. B. K. SOME GOWDA and other members of the Hassan District.

Mr. B. DONDE GOWDA represented that since the condition of the villages and of the people living in them was not satisfactory in many respects, Government should take steps to improve the same. For this purpose he suggested that they should raise a loan of one crore of rupees and help the raiyats with small loans, the same being recovered in easy instalments and interest at 4 per cent being charged on the amounts lent.

The PRESIDENT observed that that would not be the proper way of giving relief to the raiyats. And, seeing that there had been occasions when there was opposition from the members of

the House to the raising of loans even for very remunerative purposes, he asked the mover how he would justify the raising of a loan for the purpose mentioned by him. He added that rural reconstruction scheme already at work in the State appeared to be the best way of achieving the object in view, and this the Government were always prepared to do to the utmost extent possible.

Mr. DONDE GOWDA said that as the raiyat was the backbone of the State, the Government must go to his rescue at the present juncture and in any attempt in this direction, the entire House would be only too glad to support. Bearing this in mind, the Government might without any hesitation think of raising a loan for the said purpose. The villagers were grateful to the Government for having taken up the rural reconstruction scheme but so long as the raiyat was groaning under the heavy weight of debt, all the measures taken would be useless. The best way of helping the raiyat was by relieving him of his indebtedness without any delay. Otherwise he was sure to be ruined and it would be impossible to save him at a later stage.

The REVENUE COMMISSIONER (Mr. K. V. Anantaraman) said that the Government were taking the keenest and most sustained interest in the matter of rural improvement and providing for the purpose grants on a very liberal scale. How best the work of rural improvement should proceed was being investigated by means of intensive work in some places, and when sufficient experience was gained, the scheme would be extended by degrees to other villages also. In the meanwhile, it was known that the chief economic want was to improve irrigation works. So, large irrigation works had been undertaken as detailed in the Dewan's Address. Again, for drinking water wells, a five-year programme had been sanctioned and every year a sum of Rs. 3 lakhs would be made available for providing wells; it was expected that within this period, every village would have been provided with a drinking water well. In these and some other directions, Government were already doing everything possible to improve the lot of the villagers, and would be too willing to do whatever else remained to be done in other useful directions. He was of opinion that it would not be advisable to raise a huge loan and launch on a big scheme all at once and throughout the State, as implied in the representation. By doing so, the Government would be taking a great risk, without any special advantage accruing to the State.

Mr. DONDE GOWDA said that a Government which were successfully carrying out huge schemes like the Bhadravati Iron Works, the Paper and the Sugar Factories, etc., ought to find no difficulty in solving the problem of indebtedness of raiyats. He added that though the Government were helping the raiyats in certain ways as already explained, still, the main relief required by them was from indebtedness. All other activities were like watering the branches of a tree, while relieving raiyats from debt would be as effective as watering the roots.

The SECOND MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina N. Madhava Rau) observed that the Government were already carrying on rural improvement work without resorting to loans and that therefore there was no necessity for them to float a loan specially for that purpose, as suggested in the representation.

No. 7.—Selection of 50 model villages in each district every year.

Rao Sahib M. RAMASWAMI (Mysore City Municipality).

Rao Sahib M. RAMASWAMI represented that there were 16,000 villages in the State and at the rate at which they were being selected for improvement, even 20 years would not be enough for improving all of them. He therefore requested that with a view to expedite the work, at least 50 villages in each district be selected every year and provided with all the amenities.

The PRESIDENT observed that Government were doing as much work as possible in the direction of rural improvement.

Mr. T. MARIYAPPA said that this was an important representation. The mover had asked that 50 villages in each district should be selected every year for reconstruction work. But he would like to request that attempts should be made to improve all the villages uniformly to some extent and in addition to it Government might select a few villages every year and make them model ones. With regard to the work now being done, he observed that most of the villages selected were road-side villages to which the authorities were taking distinguished visitors from outside with the object of earning their approbation. Beyond this, no other purpose was being served by the model villages at present. There was not much to be gained by spending money on spectacular items of work as at present, such as ornamental gate-pillars, planting American or Australian plants, panchayat halls, etc. For instance, in Chinakurli model village most of the money had been spent on Kerb stones alone. He also brought to notice, in this connection, that in many places such works were being undertaken under official pressure and to please the higher authorities. Improvements undertaken with such motives could not sustain for long. It would be much more useful if the Government educated the people to do the work spontaneously. If this was done, and local talent made use of for carrying out building programmes, etc., the work would also be solid in nature and lasting in results. Any number of instances to support this statement were available in the country. Temples were one such example, and they could not have been built without the willing co-operation of the people concerned. But unfortunately, these were crumbling now because of the want of interest on the part of the succeeding generations. If the work of village improvement should be carried on efficiently and in all places, the authorities would do well to appoint a small *ad hoc* or advisory committee for each taluk consisting of the local officers and representatives of all the village panchayats, the Amildar of the taluk being the Secretary.

The PRESIDENT enquired whether the panchayats could not serve the purpose.

Mr. T. MARIYAPPA replied that the panchayats lacked the initiative. No doubt they were statutory bodies, but they were not functioning properly, due partly to illiteracy of the members and partly to want of proper guidance. Though the Amildars could exercise supervision and control over the village panchayats, it was too much to expect them to personally attend to the work in all the 200 or 300 village panchayats within their jurisdiction. If separate committees were constituted, they could meet once a month and decide upon the particular works to be carried out in each village according to a definite programme.

The PRESIDENT observed that this work must be done only by the village panchayats and no other committee would serve the purpose. They must co-operate with the local officers and do the work.

Mr. MAYI GOWDA brought to notice that the people of the Kodagihalli model village had done much better work than people of any other place. And yet, so far, Government had not given them any grant. For this reason, the people were getting less enthusiastic over the work. He thought that Government ought to encourage such villages with liberal grants in which case, they would stimulate other villages to take similar action.

Mr. L. VEMA REDDY said that the question of rural improvement was not being tackled on right lines. At the rate at which the work was going on at present, there was no chance of any solid improvement being effected, whether the number selected in each village be 50 or 100, per year. He thought that selecting a few villages on the road-side and neglecting all those in the interior was not the right way of tackling the problem. It was also not right for the villages to expect grants from Government for improvement works. The best way of achieving the object in view, according to him, was to catalogue all the improvements necessary in each village and send a copy of

the list to the Amildar, that officer being instructed to examine during his tours the progress made in each village under each item. If this was done, there was some possibility of village improvement work being carried on systematically.

The SECOND MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina N. Madhava Rau) observed that instructions to that effect had long since been issued to the officers and the work was being done on those lines.

Mr. L. VEMA REDDY also suggested that prizes might be instituted for being awarded to the villages showing the best work.

The FIRST MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina S. P. Rajagopalachari) said that that was also being done.

At this stage, the House adjourned to meet again at 12 of the clock the following day (Friday, 30th September 1938).

THIRD DAY.

Friday, 30th September 1938.

The House reassembled at the Jagan Mohan Palace Pavilion on Friday, 30th September 1938, at 12 of the clock, Mr. President (*Amin-ul-Mulk* Sir Mirza M. Ismail, K.C.I.E., O.B.E., Dewan) in the Chair.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS—*contd.*

Merino Rams.

Q.—5. **Messrs. B. MUNIVENKATAPPA** and **N. APPANNA REDDY** (Bangalore Taluk); **T. THIMMARAYAPPA** and **Patel HONNASIDDAIYA** (Magadi Taluk); **T. MADIAH GOWDA** and **M. SIDDE GOWDA** (Channapatna Taluk); **B. CHOODE GOWDA** and **M. B. GURULINGIAH** (Closepet Taluk); **C. N. NARASINGA RAO** (Bangalore City Municipality); **K. NARAYANA SETTY** (Magadi Municipality); **S. KARIYAPPA** and **Gurukar VENKATARAMANE GOWDA** (Kankanhaili Taluk); **A. M. VENKATASAMIAH** (Closepet Municipality); **A. HANUMANTHARAYAPPA** (Devanhalli Taluk); **H. S. SURYANARAYANA RAO, K. T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR, B. M. MUNISWAMAPPA** and **V. VENKATESAIYA** (Special Interests); **Patel HANUME GOWDA** (Dodballapur Taluk); **B. MALLAPPA** and **A. M. CHANNAMARE GOWDA** (Nelamangala Taluk); **K. P. PARASIVIAH** (Kankanhalli Municipality); **S. SHARABHANNA** (Anekal Taluk); **Shampur PAPANNA** and **S. MUNIVENKATAPPA** (Minorities).

Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) the object of getting merino rams from other countries; when they were brought; the amount spent therefor and the income therefrom;

(*b*) the places where there are sheep rearing farms in the State;

(*c*) the income and expenditure incurred since 1930 up to date from the sheep-rearing station at Kolar;

(*d*) (i) the names of taluks in Kolar District where instructions about sheep-rearing have been imparted and the business developed; (ii) the other districts, taluks, hoblies and villages where people have been educated in this industry (names to be furnished);

(*e*) whether sheep-rearing stations will be similarly established hereafter in every taluk, hobli-headquarter and the conditions on which rams and ewes will be supplied to the raiyats desirous of owning them;

(*f*) whether there have been any such requisitions from raiyats since 1930, and if so, how many and how they were disposed of (the addresses of such of those raiyats who have been supplied with rams and ewes may be furnished)?

A.—**The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (Mr. M. Venkatanaranappa).**—

(*a*) The object of importing merino sheep is to evolve a type, by cross-breeding with the local type, so as to